

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (previously amended) An isolated nucleic acid consisting of 77 up to 120 nucleotides , wherein the nucleic acid comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14.

2. – 7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A vector comprising an HIV nucleic acid insert, wherein the nucleic acid insert consists of the nucleic acid of claim 1 or claim 26.

9. – 10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A probe comprising an HIV nucleic acid insert, wherein the nucleic acid insert consists consisting of the nucleic acid of claim 1 or claim 26.

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. – 22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid complement of complementary to the nucleic acid of claim 1 or claim 26, wherein said isolated nucleic acid complement is identical in length to the nucleic acid of claim 1 or claim 26.

24. – 25. (canceled)

26. (previously amended) An isolated nucleic acid wherein the sequence of the nucleic acid consists of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14.